

Amendments to the Drawings

Replacement sheets have been filed for FIGs. 1-2, 3A-3F, 4A-4C, and 5-9.

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-12, and 18-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 22 being the independent claims. Claims 1-12 and 18-24 are sought to be amended, and claims 13-17 and 25-28 are sought to be canceled. The specification has been amended to correct informalities. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Drawing Objections

Figure 1 has been amended per the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, it is requested that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-12 and 18-24 have been amended per the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, it is requested that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn. Claims 26-27 have been canceled rendering this objection moot.

Double Patenting

Claims 26-27 have been canceled rendering this objection moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 10, and 22-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,212,229 to Salinger (hereinafter "Salinger"). Claims 1-2, 9, 10, 13-16, 19, 20, and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,579,336 to Fitzgerald *et al.* Applicant traverses this rejection based on the discussion below.

Claim 1 has been amended so that the *transmitter de-emphasis circuit*, includes,
a first transconductance device;
a second transconductance device, coupled in parallel with said first transconductance device;
a summer device for summing current outputs of said first and second transconductance devices;

(Claim 1, *emphasis added*)

Neither Salinger nor Fitzgerald teaches or suggest a transmitter de-emphasis circuit having these characteristics. Nor does the Office Action suggest this. Accordingly, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teaches or suggests each and every feature of claim 1, and therefore does not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 § U.S.C. 102(a) be reconsidered and removed and that claim 1 be passed to allowance. Claims 2-4, and 9-10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and therefore are allowable for being dependent on an allowable base claim, in addition to their own patentable features.

Claim 22 has been amended so that the *transmission line* is *differential*, and so that the *equalizer* includes *an inductor between first and second components of said differential transmission line.* (See, claim 22, *emphasis added*)

Neither Salinger nor Fitzgerald teach or suggests or *an equalizer that includes an inductor between first and second components of said differential transmission line*. Nor does the Office Action suggest this. Accordingly, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teach each and every feature of claim 22, and therefore do not anticipate claim 22.

Regarding U.S. Patent 6,525,601 to Gilbert (hereinafter "Gilbert"), the Office Action correctly points out that Gilbert teaches an inductive peaking circuit at col 10, lines 24-25. However, Gilbert makes no mention of a *an equalizer* configured to interface with a *differential transmission line and having an inductor between first and second components of said differential transmission line*. Accordingly, Gilbert does not anticipate claim 22 or render it obvious.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 22 under 35 § U.S.C. 102(a) be reconsidered and removed and that claim 22 be passed to allowance. Claims 23-24 depend directly or indirectly from claim 22, and therefore are allowable for being dependent on an allowable base claim, in addition to their own patentable features.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-7, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salinger or Fitzgerald and further in view of Gilbert. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection based on the discussion below.

Claims 5-7, 11 and 12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. As discussed above, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teaches or suggests a *transmitter de-emphasis circuit* that includes a *first transconductance device, a second transconductance device, coupled in parallel with said first transconductance device, and a summer device for*

summing current outputs of said first and second transconductance devices, as recited in claim 1. Gilbert does not cure this defect, nor does the Office Action allege this. Accordingly, claims 5-7, 11, and 12 are allowable over the cited art for the same reasons mentioned above for claim 1, in addition to their own patentable features. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claims 5-7, 11 and 12 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that these claims be passed to allowance.

Further, claim 11 recites that wherein said transmission line is *differential*, and wherein said *equalizer includes an inductor between first and second components of said differential transmission line*. (See, claim 11) As discussed above, Gilbert teaches an inductive peaking circuit at col 10, lines 24-25. However, Gilbert makes no mention of a *equalizer* configured to interface with a *differential transmission line* and having *an inductor between first and second components of said differential transmission line*. Claim 12 depends from claim 11. Accordingly, Gilbert does not render claims 11-12 obvious.

Claims 8 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salinger as applied to claims 1 and 25, respectively, above, and further in view of Fitzgerald. Applicants traverse below.

Claim 8 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1. As discussed above, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teaches or suggests a *transmitter de-emphasis circuit* that includes *a first transconductance device, a second transconductance device, coupled in parallel with said first transconductance device, and a summer device for summing current outputs of said first and second transconductance devices*, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 8 is not rendered obvious over Salinger in view of Fitzgerald. Accordingly, Applicants requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claim 8 be

reconsidered and withdrawn and that this claim be passed to allowance. Claim 28 has been canceled rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salinger in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0120419 to Gauthier *et al.* Applicants traverse below.

Claim 9 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1. As discussed above, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teaches or suggests a *transmitter de-emphasis circuit* that includes *a first transconductance device, a second transconductance device, coupled in parallel with said first transconductance device, and a summer device for summing current outputs of said first and second transconductance devices*, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 9 is not rendered obvious over Salinger in view of Gauthier. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claim 9 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that this claim be passed to allowance.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fitzgerald in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,604,250 to Grandia. Claim 17 has been canceled rendering this rejection moot.

Claims 18 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salinger or Fitzgerald and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,694,439 to Doyle. Applicants traverse below.

Claims 18 and 21 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. As discussed above, neither Salinger or Fitzgerald teaches or suggests a *transmitter de-emphasis circuit* that includes *a first transconductance device, a second transconductance device, coupled in parallel with said first transconductance device, and a summer device for summing current outputs of said first and second transconductance devices*, as recited in claim 1.

Doyle does not cure this defect, nor does the Office Action allege this. Accordingly, claims 18 and 21 are allowable over the cited art for the same reasons mentioned above for claim 1, in addition to their own patentable features. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claims 18 and 21 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that these claims be passed to allowance.

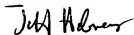
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey T. Helvey
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,757

Date: 6/18/07

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

684892_1.DOC